

**To:** Cogliano, Vincent[cogliano.vincent@epa.gov]  
**Cc:** Ioven, Dawn[loven.Dawn@epa.gov]  
**From:** Kelly, Jack (R3 Phila.)  
**Sent:** Mon 3/10/2014 5:11:27 PM  
**Subject:** Help for developing an inhalation screening value for the compound 4-MCHM

Hello Jim,

I obtained your name from Dawn Ioven, Superfund toxicologist for EPA Region 3.

I am an On Scene Coordinator in Region 3. Lately, I have been working on a few issues involving the

Freedom Enterprises chemical spill in Charleston, WV. No doubt you have heard of this incident.

You may know that CDC/ATSDR came up with an ingestion screening value for the compound 4-MCHM. See link:

<http://emergency.cdc.gov/chemical/MCHM/westvirginia2014/mchm.asp>

Also see: <http://www.dhsem.wv.gov/Pages/WV-American-Water-Emergency.aspx>

Several weeks ago, the West Virginia DEP asked if EPA could provide air sampling and analysis support at the site of the spill and potentially in schools. At the time, several schools were evacuated due to strong odors perceived by building occupants. Although these indoor air incidents seem to have ceased, there is good reason to believe that the 4-MCHM odor will be detected when tank demolition and soil excavation likely commence in the near future. Recently, several water field blank samples collected at the site were found to contain low levels of 4-MCHM suggesting the chemical may have contaminated the samples through air exposure.

Our Environmental Response Team in Edison, NJ (EPA ERT) has developed an air analytical method for 4-MCHM and is planning to initiate a field sampling event to test the method and develop a sampling SOP. The sampling event would take place at the immediate site of the spill where ground disturbance routinely results in awareness of the chemical odor. The sampling plan has resulted in concerns by some at EPA as we do not have an air screening value for the chemical. As you will see from the CDC/ATSDR website, toxicological information on the chemical is limited (we do have the proprietary studies from the chemical manufacturer).

Our Region was hoping you could assist with the development of a preliminary screening value.....or.....identify a program at EPA best suited for this work. Unfortunately, the time frame is weeks rather than months or years.

If you are interested and can discuss with Dawn and I, please let us know of a good day and time for you.

Thank you for any assistance you can provide.

Sincerely,

Jack Kelly

On Scene Coordinator

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